



The Australian Wine
Research Institute



Adelaide, 27 August 2009

David takes giant steps in outstanding wine sensory performance

The Australian Wine Research Institute (AWRI) and the Royal Adelaide Wine Show announced today the Dux of the 28th Advanced Wine Assessment Course (AWAC), held 21- 24 August in Adelaide, is David Mackintosh.

In congratulating David on his performance in the AWAC, Brian Walsh, Chairman of Judges for the 2009 Royal Adelaide Wine Show (to be held October 2009), said that "The Royal Adelaide Wine Show would benefit from having David as part of the Associate Judges."

The AWAC, presented by the AWRI, puts participants through a gruelling and intensive four-day wine sensory education and assessment. It aims to prepare potential new wine show judges and develop the sensory analysis capabilities and the vocabulary of Australian wine sector personnel at an elite level. Twelve leading wine show judges, journalists and winemakers assist in the presentation of the course, and 839 participants have undertaken the AWAC since its inception in 1992.

Con Simos, manager of the AWAC, said that "the AWRI continually reviews the presentation of the AWAC to ensure it delivers the rigour required by industry members who either wish to become Wine Show judges, or who wish to further fine-tune their palate. The selection of Dux of the course is based on statistical scores and oratory skills of the participants."

David Mackintosh, as Dux of the AWAC, was automatically offered a place as an associate judge for the Royal Adelaide Wine Show – a highly competitive position given the limited places available.

David, who has been in his current position as Winemaker at Giant Steps/Innocent Bystander, since 2007, (previous to this he worked at Brokenwood in 2006 and completed studies at Lincoln University in 2001) said, "This is a great confidence boost and has certainly fast-tracked opportunities for me in wine-show judging, especially with such a prestigious event as the Royal Adelaide Wine Show."

The next AWAC will be held in 2010, please contact the AWRI for details.

Further information:

Rae Blair
Communications Manager
Email: rae.blair@awri.com.au

Con Simos
Group Manager – Industry Development and Support
Email: con.simos@awri.com.au Tel: 08 8303 6622
Web: http://www.awri.com.au/industry_support/awac/